

WISHING A HEALTHY, HAPPY NEW
YEAR TO ORGANIZATION OF CHI-
NESE AMERICANS

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to wish the membership of the Organization of Chinese Americans a healthy and happy New Year for the year 4703, the year of the Rooster.

The New Year is a time for reflection and thanksgiving for the joys of life and loved ones and I am thankful for the richness that this organization brings to my region. Chinese Americans have made great contributions to Western Pennsylvania and to our nation as a whole and I am very honored for this opportunity to wish them the best year yet in 4703.

I encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing the members of the Organization of Chinese Americans a very happy and prosperous New Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, because US Airways canceled my flight into Washington, DC on February 8, 2005, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote no. 20, on agreeing to H. Res. 46; for rollcall vote no. 21, on agreeing to H.R. 315, the John Milton Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse Designation Act; and, for rollcall vote no. 22, on agreeing to H.R. 548, the Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote no. 20, "yes" on rollcall vote no. 21, and "yes" on rollcall vote no. 22.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present in the House Chamber for votes on February 8, 2005, as I was attending the memorial services of a constituent, Corporal Harry Swain, IV of Millville, New Jersey, who died as the result of hostile action in Iraq. If I were present for votes on this day, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall #20, "yea" on Rollcall #21, and "yea" on Rollcall #22.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT
TROOP 243, FOUNDED IN LAFAY-
ETTE, CALIFORNIA

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the present and past mem-

bers, leaders, and sponsors of Boy Scout Troop 243, founded in Lafayette, California, on the 50th Anniversary of the Troop.

Boy Scouting touches us all at some point in our lives—as troop members, parent volunteers, civic supporters, or simply as residents of our communities where we see the achievements of local Boy Scouts as upstanding models for our youth.

If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a platoon of parents to serve a Boy Scout troop. Nationally, there are close to one million Boy Scouts served by over half a million adult volunteers—on average, more than one adult for every two Scouts.

Troop 243 has a rich history of local leadership. The founding sponsor was a committee of the Burton School, St. Mary's Orchards, and St. Mary's Estate Home Improvement Association. The first Scoutmaster, H. T. McBride, was followed in 1959 by J.J. DuFosse. In 1965, Harry Wiser served as Scoutmaster when the Lafayette Christian Church became Troop sponsor.

Troop growth took off in 1988 when John Coleman, a 1974 Troop 243 Eagle Scout, took over as Scoutmaster, initiating numerous outdoor activities including 50-mile hikes, snow skiing, summer camping, river rafting, and a 100-mile bicycle trip over Mt. Lassen.

The program of varied outdoor activities, including canoeing in Minnesota, continued under Scoutmaster Terry Campbell in 1994. Then in 1996 John Coleman returned, adding new Troop experiences, including a sailing expedition to Catalina Island.

Throughout the 50-year life of Troop 243, generations of Boy Scouts have taken on Good Deeds projects as good community members and civic representatives. Scouts and parents donate many hours cleaning up local creeks and trails. This year the Troop raised over 22,000 pounds of food for the local food bank!

Mr. Speaker, I honor the 50 years of accomplishments of members, leaders, and sponsors of Troop 243. I am very proud to represent Troop 243 in Congress and I congratulate them on their achievements.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GRUETT

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Congress, to acknowledge George Gruett, a man who has devoted his life to his country and to his community at large. Currently, he serves the Mississippi valley as the Executive Vice President of the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association, a post he has held since 1980.

Mr. Gruett was born and raised in West Tennessee and while he has always been a part of the Mississippi valley, he has served his country bravely outside American borders. After completing his training with the Aviation Cadet Training, United States Army Air Corps, he flew with the 12th Air Force in the European Theatre of Operations in WWII.

After the war, Mr. Gruett obtained a degree in civil engineering and worked as a civilian employee of the Corp of Engineers. Upon his retirement in 1978 after 35 years of service,

he was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and was inducted into the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1991; awards befitting his commitment and his abilities. He retired from the Corp of Engineers to take up his position with the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association.

In addition to an impressive record of public service, Mr. Gruett remains active in his church and community. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Scottish Rite Shrine, American Legion and the Society of American Military Engineers.

In light of recent natural disasters, I can't help but think of our own corner of the world and how thankful I am for people like George Gruett, who have worked with such dedication to foster flood control, bank stabilization, drainage and navigation; everyone of them integral to the survival of our area both economically and physically. On behalf of the Congress, I thank George for his dedication and congratulate him for his years of skilled service to his country.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLARD D. SMALL

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Willard D. Small of Fair Bluff, North Carolina for his 48 years of service as councilman to the citizens of Fair Bluff in Columbus County. Mr. Small's tenure as councilman is the longest in North Carolina, and his work has made a tremendous difference in the town and the community.

Samuel Logan Bringle, the legendary leader in the Salvation Army, once said some very important words that reflect the character and life of Willard Small. He said, "The final estimate of a man will show that history cares not one iota about the title he has carried or the rank he has borne, but only about the quality of his deeds and the character of his heart." Indeed, Willard has reflected this through his sacrifice and commitment.

From his service as the Fair Bluff Town Councilman to local businessman to Director for the Cape Fear Farm Credit to Trustee for both Southeastern Community College and Campbell University to member of the Columbus County Economic Development Commission to active member of the Fair Bluff Baptist Church to devoted husband, father, and friend, Willard Small has truly been a foundation on which Fair Bluff and Columbus County have continued to thrive. Service to others has been the embodiment of his life—service that sets a path for others to follow and that we all should emulate.

As we celebrate Presidents' Day this month, let each of us remember the words of a great President, Thomas Jefferson, who said, "To do our fellow man the most good, we must lead where we can, follow where we cannot, and still go with him, always watching for that favorable moment to help him another step forward!"

We thank Willard, on behalf of the citizens of Fair Bluff, Columbus County, and the State of North Carolina, for always looking for that favorable moment and for always helping his

fellow citizens. May God's strength, joy and peace be with him always.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained when traveling from my district on February 8, 2005, and missed rollcall vote Nos. 20–22. Had I been present I would have voted “aye” on all three votes: Rollcall vote No. 20: H. Res. 46, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month; rollcall vote No. 21: H.R. 315, The John Milton Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse Designation Act; and rollcall vote No. 22: H.R. 548, The Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act.

TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURT- HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today in support of H.R. 548, a bill to designate the Federal building and courthouse in Dayton, Ohio, as the “Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse.”

Since his graduation from Denison University, Tony Hall has been working as a public servant, beginning a career that would affect not only the residents of the 3rd district in Ohio, but the world as well. He returned from the Peace Corps in 1968, after which he honorably served in both the Ohio statehouse and senate before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1978.

In his 12 terms in the House, Mr. Hall was a devout advocate for the eradication of poverty and the improvement of human rights conditions around the world. While Mr. Hall was a trusted colleague of the House Rules Committee and tireless worker for the people of Ohio, he is best known for his unwavering commitment to alleviating the crisis of worldwide hunger. In addition to being the founder and chairman of the Congressional Hunger Caucus, Mr. Hall was nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize for his humanitarian work and dedication to hunger relief issues. He resigned from Congress in 2002 to accept a much deserved appointment as the United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture. As the leader of the United Nations World Food Program, Ambassador Hall has been at the forefront in confronting the extraordinary challenge of providing food and supplies to the millions devastated by the tsunami disaster in South Asia.

Tony Hall truly exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. His faith and dedication to the welfare of others provides an excellent example of how one person can positively affect

the lives of so many. I am honored to have served with him in Congress and call him a friend.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio for introducing this legislation and I call on my colleagues for their support on this resolution.

CHINA'S ANTI-SECESSION LEGISLATION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, December 17, 2004, the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress (NPC) announced they would include an “anti-secession” law, aimed at Taiwan, in the March 2005 agenda of the National People's Congress. China's “anti-secession legislation” indicates that China may be willing to make decisions unilaterally to change the status quo of relations between China and Taiwan. The proposed law if adopted will not foster an atmosphere favorable to cross-strait goodwill between China and Taiwan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 22, had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

CELEBRATING MARY BUSTILLO DONOHUE'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable American, a dear friend of mine, and a dedicated member of my congressional staff—Mary Bustillo Donohue, who turns 80-years-young on February 14, 2005.

Mary has dedicated her life to her family and her community. She was born in Cuba to parents who valued education and citizenship. After her family fled a repressive government in 1933, Mary grew up in New York City with a strong sense of the sacrifices her parents had made in coming to America, and with compassion and admiration for others longing to be citizens of our nation. She attended Cathedral High School, and met the love of her life, Jerry Donohue, on their first date, April 19, 1942. Jerry, who had enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was transferred to the Naval Reserve, served his country in World War II in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war. During a brief break from Jerry's training at the School of Naval Administration at Stanford University, Mary and Jerry were married at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York

City on June 18, 1946. Mary and Jerry Donohue moved to River Edge, New Jersey in 1952 where they were blessed with eight fantastic children, and later, 17 brilliant and beautiful grandchildren. After earning her BA and MBA degrees in Education from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and working on her doctorate in Spanish Literature at New York University, Mary embarked on a 26-year teaching career, including her role as the first female administrator at Paramus Catholic Boys High School.

Mary's life of “firsts” continued. Mary and Jerry were elected by the parishioners of St. Peter the Apostle Church to serve on the first Parish Council. Mary served as Democratic Town Committeewoman for River Edge District 4 for over 30 years. She was twice elected River Edge Councilwoman, having the honor of being the first elected woman to serve River Edge in that capacity. In 1989, she was elected to the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the first Hispanic to serve as a member of the County's seven-person legislative body. Mary was then elected by the New Jersey State Democratic Committee to serve two terms as a member of the Democratic National Committee, and was elected Chairperson of the National Hispanic Caucus of the Democratic National Committee during President Clinton's tenure.

This past year, after 57 years of marriage, Mary lost the love of her life, her beloved husband, friend, and companion, Jerry. His passing has caused her much sadness. However, Mary continues to give back and touch the lives of the residents of Northern New Jersey. She serves on the New Bridge Landing Park Commission, was recently re-elected Democratic Committeewoman of District 4 in River Edge, teaches Spanish two hours a week to senior citizens at the Teaneck Senior Center, and assists with national, state, county, and municipal election campaigns. Also—and for this I am most proud and grateful—Mary serves as a caseworker in my Hackensack, New Jersey office three days a week, specializing in immigration and citizenship services, using her vast knowledge, experience, multilingual gifts and compassionate heart to assist those people who, very much like her parents, want to become citizens of our great nation and provide a better life for their children.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today with sincere and enduring admiration, fondness and great respect for my dear friend and colleague, Mary Bustillo Donohue and I wish her the very best as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I know her family, friends, and coworkers will join me in wishing her a wonderful year ahead, filled with joy, happiness, and good health. She is truly an inspiration and role model for us all. Happy Birthday Mary!

TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURT- HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 548, the Tony Hall Federal Building and United States Courthouse